HF Happenings

Volume 14, Issue 5 No 681 the week of 16 November 2015

New Band at 5 MHz

Colin Thomas, G3PSM reports that during todays (18 November) afternoon plenary session of WRC-15 in Geneva a new amateur service allocation at 5 MHz was approved.

Although only a small allocation of 15 kHz between 5 351.5 - 5 366.5 kHz was eventually agreed, it is the first new allocation at HF since the WARC of 1979. After intense pressure from the fixed service primary user, power limits have been set at 15 Watts EIRP in Regions 1 and 3, 20 Watts EIRP in Mexico and 25 Watts EIRP in Central America, South America and most of the Caribbean area.

Region 1 Member Societies not having an allocation under Article 4.4 of the Radio Regulations are urged to contact their administration to have this narrow segment included in their licence, although the new Radio Regulations will not come into force until 1 January 2017.

ICASA extends the SARL 5 MHz Licence

ICASA has extended the South African Radio League license for 5 260 and 5 290 kHz until 13 December pending a decision by the ICASA Council on the League's request to extend the two licenses for another three years. The League filed the request several months ago as it is expected that the WRC process to give radio amateurs a permanent allocation in the 5 MHz band is likely to take some time. The proposal is current being discussed at the WRC-15 meeting in Geneva. The original South African Radio League license expired on 31 October 2015.

Watch out for details on another 5 MHz activity weekend on 28 and 29 November.

2016 Youngsters on the Air Summer Camp

The sixth Youngsters on the Air summer camp will take place from 16 to 23 July 2016 in Wagrain, south of Salzburg (OE2 call area) in Austria. The Austrian society, OeVSV, is celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2016 and, as part of the celebrations, will be hosting the YOTA camp.

Seventy-five youngsters, between the ages of 15 and 25, will be invited to travel to the Austrian Alps to enjoy a programme with many new elements compared to previous years.

Why are you not offering your services to Hamnet?

Amateur radio is a hobby involving experimentation and self-education. This includes finding out if you have the capability to run a station from your house or in the wilds, without electricity and in disaster conditions, assisting the community when facilities are compromised. It also includes improving your voice procedures to be able to convey a message accurately and succinctly, receiving and comprehending a message when conditions are bad.

All of this can be improved upon by belonging to Hamnet, the emergency communication arm of the South African Radio League. So why are you not a member yet?

Hamnet can use your capabilities, no matter whether you are confined to home by illness, or a keen mountaineer, or even a cave-explorer. Cyclists, quad-bikers, sky-

jumpers, marathon-runners - there is space for you! Contact the League office for the details of the Hamnet Director in your region.

Do not forget to listen to Amateur Radio Today's programme today at 10:00 on a Sunday on a repeater near you or on 7 082 kHz SSB or 7 205 kHz AM, for the weekly Hamnet bulletin after the Headquarters' bulletin.

ICASA rules about ZU licenses for people over 25

With the publication of the new radio regulations earlier this year, the much talked about age restriction for ZU license holders was implemented. Persons under 20 years old can write the Class B examination and if successful can hold a ZU or Class B license until 25 years old after which, if they would like to continue with Amateur Radio, have to sit the Class A examination to qualify for a Class A (ZS/ZR license).

During the discussion stage of this new regulation, the South African Radio League was requested to approach ICASA to review their decision, which the League did at two occasions when ICASA invited comments on their proposal. ICASA strongly believes that the Class B license prime purpose was to create opportunities for young people toenter Amateur Radio and based on that premises implemented the new regulation.

The League requested ICASA to allow a reasonable period for ZU licences over 25 to upgrade. ICASA agreed to this. The Authority has announced that no persons over 25 years old can renew their ZU licence from 1 April 2017. In a letter to the affected licensees, currently being mailed, ICASA recommends that the affected persons enrol for a Class A license course and write the next RAE in May or October 2016.

Ja well, no fine! What about persons over the age of 25 who would like to enter Amateur Radio?

IOTA News

November

1 – All Saints Day; Cape Town International Kite Festival
2 – Start of World Radio Communication Conference 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland
7 – RaDAR Challenge; Winterton Street Festival
8 - Remembrance Sunday; PEARS HF Contest; the Big Walk, Cape Town
7 and 8 – International Police Association Contest
11 - Armistice Day; Diwali
19 to 21 – The GWK Cherry Festival in Ficksburg
21 – Overrburg ARC Year-end Function
28 – West Rand Flea Market
28 and 29 – CQ WW DX CW Contest and the SARL 5 MHz Activity Weekend
29 – The 33rd Toy Run

December

1 – Start of Youth on the Air (YOTA) month
3 – Day for Disabled Persons
6 – SARL Digital Contest
9 – All schools close
12 and 13 – ARRL 10 metre contest
16 – Day of Reconciliation
22 - Summer Solstice; Feast of Tevet
24 – Christmas Eve
25 - Christmas Day
26 – Family Day
31 - Old Years Eve; end of 2015 CQ Marathon; end of Youth on the Air (YOTA) Month
31 – Destroy your copy of the 2015 SARL Blue Book

Record holders who have made IOTA contacts in an IOTA contest after 2003, can claim credit for them without submitting QSLs, provided that the contact details match, either by manually entering the QSO information on the input form or by uploading a Cabrillo format log. The 2015 IOTA Contest data has now been uploaded to the IOTA database and is available for QSO matching. This is significantly earlier than in previous years and we should thank all on the IT side involved.

K1N DVD

The DVD of the February 2015 DXpedition to Navassa Island is now available; see www.k4uee.com for the details. "It took eight years to send men to the moon,

but it took thirteen years to get permission to visit Navassa Island. The long road involved getting permission from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, because Navassa has been declared a National Wildlife Refuge. The DVD shows the logistical challenge of moving fifteen operators and tons of gear to this small-uninhabited island in the Caribbean. It was hot work - and expensive - since the only practical way to get there, was via helicopter. This two-week effort paid off with 140 000 QSOs and many, many all-time new ones, as tens of thousands of amateurs worldwide were not even licensed the last time Navassa Island was activated in 1993".

The End of an Era

The DX Magazine's annual Most Wanted Survey has ended. "For the past few years I have been comparing the DX Magazine survey results with the one available from Michael Wells, G7VJR, on his ClubLog web site", Carl Smith, N4AA, says. "The two results have consistently closely paralleled each other. After serious consideration, it seemed to me that the ClubLog Most Wanted information would adequately serve the DX community. The one conducted by The DX Magazine would not offer enough difference to justify the cost in time, or money, for it to continue. I want to thank the thousands of DXers world-wide, who have supported The DX Magazine survey for the past 25 years."

The DX Magazine, "will continue to provide DXers with the stories of DXpeditionners traveling to the far reaches of the earth to provide you with those cherished contacts from rare and exotic places. I want to encourage the organisers/leaders of those DXpeditions to continue offering their stories. By telling others, who, what, where, when and how you made that operation possible, the story can be the final chapter of the DXpedition. It might also inspire others to make the effort to organize their own DXpedition or to at least make a donation to the next major DXpedition."
www.dxpub.net/DX-Magazine.html

YASME Excellence Award

In 2008, the Yasme Foundation (www.yasme.org) established the Yasme Excellence Awards, to be presented to those who, through their own service, creativity, effort and dedication, have made a significant contribution to amateur radio. The contribution may be in recognition of technical, operating or organizational achievement, as all three are necessary for amateur radio to grow and prosper.

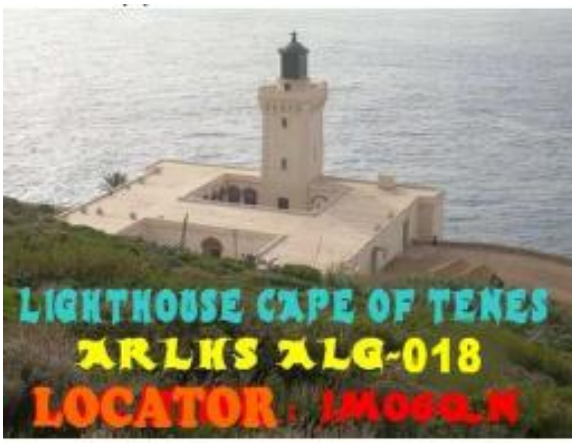
The latest recipient, announced on 13 November, is the N1MM+ Development Team of Tom Wagner, N1MM, Rick Ellison, N2AMG, Steve London, N2IC, John Bednar, K3CT, Nikolay Safronov, NA3M, Pete Smith, N4ZR, Andreas Hofman, KU7T, Larry Gauthier, K8UT, and Richard Ferch, VE3KI
"The initial N1MM Classic is a sophisticated logging program offered at no cost to contesters around the world. N1MM+ is a major revision to the original program and was a completely volunteer effort of thousands of programmer-hours to rewrite and test more than 250 000 lines of code. The program continues to be made available without charge and continues to be refined on a regular basis, supported by an extensive user group and full documentation."
(www.n1mm.com).

Another new contest!

In the new UK/EI DX Contest, United Kingdom and Ireland amateurs are "home" while the rest of the world is "DX." The SSB side of the event occurs on 5 and 6 December 2015 and CW is 23 and 24 January 2016. *Just for 2015 and 2016, all contest entrants work all other entrants for QSO points and multipliers*. This should be a fun contest! Logs are due just two hours after the contest end!
http://www.arrl.org/news/new-uk-ei-dx-contest-to-launch-in-december

African DX

Algeria, 7X. Members of the 7X2BDX club station will be active as 7T150LH between 15 and 30 November to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the lighthouse at Cap Tenes. QSL via IK2DUW (direct).



Ghana, 9G. Alan, G3XAQ is active as 9G5XA from Ghana until 21 November. He operates CW only. Alan's primary goal for this trip is to find a quiet QTH outside Accra for use by a larger and more serious DXpedition within the next few months. QSL via G3SWH, preferably through the OQRS at www.g3swh.org.uk/decision.html.

Mozambique, C9. Marko, N5ZO, will be active as C92ZO from Mozambique from around 22 November to 1 December. He will operate CW and some SSB on the HF bands, with the main activity planned during the CQ WW DX CW Contest. QSL via OH0XX.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies
CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz
SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Mayotte and Reunion. Peter, DL1RPL, and his son Soren, DL3RKS will be active from Mayotte (AF-027) from 19 to 25 November as FH/DL1RPL and FH/DL3RKS and from Reunion Island (AF-016) on 27 November to 3 December as FR/DL1RPL and FR/DL3RKS.

Peter will operate WSJT65 and CW on 2 m and 70 cm EME, while Soren will operate CW and some SSB on 20 to 10 metres. QSLs via DL1RPL.www.dl1rpl.de,

History this week

The week starting 16 November 2015

1855 – David Livingstone reaches the Victoria waterfall
1855 – Pretoria is proposed as the capital of the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek
1900 – Gen Christiaan de Wet and his Boer forces attack the garrison, under command of Maj GW Massey, at Detwetsdorp
1933 – The USA and the USSR establish diplomatic relations
1971 – The Intel 4004 processor was released

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 16 to 23 November 2015

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
02:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Band; All Band
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST and state, province or country and member no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 22 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: http://fpqrp.org/pigrun/

QRP Fox Hunt
01:00 - 02:30 UTC 18 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 40 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 19 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 November
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 20 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 21 November 2015
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html

NAQCC CW Sprint
01:30 - 03:30 UTC 19 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1.5 x if bug, 1 x if other
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 November 2015

Upload log at:
http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at:
http://naqcc.info/sprint201511.html

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 20 November
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 22 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

QRP Fox Hunt
02:00 - 03:30 UTC 20 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 21 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint
02:30 UTC-03:00 UTC 20 November
Mode: (see rules)
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 22 November 2015
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
http://www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

YO International PSK31 Contest
16:00 - 22:00 UTC 20 November
Mode: PSK31
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 50 watts
Exchange: YO: RST, serial no and county; non-YO: RST, serial no and country
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with YO station; 1 point per QSO with non-YO station
Multipliers: Each YO county and each country
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 5 December 2015
E-mail logs to: pskyo@yo5crq.ro
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2015EN1.htm

LZ DX Contest
12:00 UTC 21 November to 12:00 UTC 22 November
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band – mixed, CW or SSB - low or high; Single Op All Band Mixed QRP; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single Mixed; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 10 watts; Non-QRP: >10 watts; QRP: 10 watts
Exchange: LZ: RS(T) and 2-letter district; non-LZ: RS(T) and ITU Zone no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with LZ station; 3 points per QSO with different continent; 1 point per QSO with same continent
Multipliers: Each ITU zone and each district once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 22 December 2015
E-mail logs to: lzdxc@bfra.bg
Upload log at:
http://bfra.bg:8080/WebEditor/
Mail logs to: BFRA, PO Box 830, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
Find rules at:
http://lzdx.bfra.org/rulesen.html

All Austrian 160-Meter Contest
16:00 UTC 21 November to 07:00 UTC 22 November
Mode: CW
Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op; Multi-Single; SWL
Exchange: OE: RST, serial no and District Code; non-OE: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each district code and each DXCC/WAE country
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 December 2015
E-mail logs to: hf-contest@oevsv.at
Upload log at: http://contestrobot.aoec160m.oevsv.at
Mail logs to: OEVSV-HQ, HF-Contest Manager, Eisvogelgasse 4/1, A-1060 Vienna, Austria
Find rules at:
http://www.oevsv.at/export/oevsv/download/AOEC/Rules_AOEC_160 m.pdf

Feld Hell Sprint
17:00 - 18:59 UTC 21 November
Mode: Feld Hell
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: (see rules)
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 28 November 2015
Upload log at:
https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/turkey-hunt-sprint

ARRL Sweepstakes SSB Contest
21:00 UTC 21 November to 03:00 UTC 23 November
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unlimited - low or high; Multi-Single - low or high; School Club – college, technical or secondary
Max operating hours: 24 with at least 30 minute off times
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Serial no, precedence (Q, A, B, U, M, S), your call sign, check and ARRL or RAC section
Work stations: Once only
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO
Multipliers: Each ARRL/RAC section and VE NT once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 8 December 2015
E-mail logs to: SSPhone@arrl.org
Mail logs to: November SS Phone, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

RSGB 2nd 1,8 MHz CW Contest
21:00 UTC 21 November to 01:00 UTC 22 November
Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op – UK, Europe or outside Europe
Exchange: UK: RST, serial no and District Code; non-UK: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO; 5 additional points for first QSO with each UK district; 5 additional points for first QSO with each country outside of UK
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 01:00 UTC 8 December 2015
Upload log at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: RSGB-G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England
Find rules at:
http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2015/r2nd-160 m.shtml

NA Collegiate ARC SSB Championship
21:00 UTC 21 November to 03:00 UTC 23 November
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: School Club (College)
Max operating hours: 24 with at least 30 minute off times
Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Serial no, precedence (Q, A, B, U, M, S), your call sign, check and ARRL or RAC section
Work stations: Once only
QSO Points: 2 points per QSO
Multipliers: Each ARRL/RAC section and VE NT once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 8 December 2015
E-mail logs to: SSPhone@arrl.org
E-mail log summary to: wm5r@wm5r.org
Mail logs to: November SS Phone, ARRL. 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA
Find rules at:
http://www.collegiatechampionship.org/rules/

Next Week's Contest

SKCC Sprint 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 25 November
Phone Fray 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 November
CWops Mini-CWT Test 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 25 November and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 26 November
UKEICC 80 m Contest 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 25 November
RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, CW 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 26 November
NCCC RTTY Sprint 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 27 November
NCCC Sprint 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 27 November
CQ Worldwide DX CW Contest, 00:00 UTC 28 November to 24:00 UTC 29 November

Word to the Wise - "Octopus"

Synonym for lockout, an octopus is a device that enforces a contest rule pertinent to multi-transmitter operation, usually to prevent two or more transmitters from transmitting simultaneously. It usually involves wires running to the transmitters involved, and so appears to have tentacles into each operating position.

The Intel 4004 processor

The Intel 4004 processor was released 44 years ago on 15 November 1971. As the first commercially available microprocessor, it was not clear to the marketing folks at the time that it was a viable product. With over 2 000 transistors, it was the first chip to incorporate on one die everything needed to be a general purpose CPU (Central Processing Unit).
http://www.edn.com/electronics-blogs/edn-moments/4401541/Intel-4004-is-announced--November-15--1971

CQ WW DX Contest

Randy, K5ZD, Director of the CQ WW DX Contest: "Just 8,5 days after the end of the 2015 CQ WW DX Contest Phone, I am happy to report that the raw scores for all entries received by 18:30 UTC on 3 November 2015 are available on the web site http://www.cqww.com/raw.htm?mode=ph.
The raw scores are the calculated score before any log checking or other adjustments are made. These scores may not match what you submitted exactly as our country file may be different from yours and you may have some QSOs where the call/country could not be determined. These are NOT the final results. Scores may change by 5 - 10% (or more) depending on the log checking. Final results will appear in the March 2016 issue of CQ Magazine. "

Operating Tip

Work Duplicates. It is less disruptive to the rhythm of your run. It could be faster and less confusing than sending "WRK B4". In this era of computer logging, the caller must not have you in their log, so it is in your interest to have the Q, too. This operating tip was given earlier this year, so it itself is a duplicate. Or is it?

A handy reference

This Instructables link includes a very useful collection of Colour Codes for Resistors, Capacitors ... ICs.
http://www.instructables.com/id/From-Resistors-to-ICs-Color-Codes/?ALLSTEPS

A troubleshooting tip from Doug, K1DG

"Since we are entering low-band season in the Northern Hemisphere, lots of new boxes are being installed for specialised receiving antennas.

I was trying to find the break in the coax to the feed point box for my two-wire reversible Beverage system using some resistors and an antenna analyser in the "Distance to Fault" mode. After a few connector replacements, I found that the system worked in one direction but would not switch directions (the relay voltage is sent down the same feed line). It turned out that the braid on the RG6 had corroded at the point where I had installed a new connector and the resulting voltage drop was sufficient to prevent the relay from switching. Cutting off a foot or so of coax and installing another new connector fixed that problem. The system switched direction as expected. It was possible on the AM broadcast band to switch between two stations on the same frequency and copy either one.

However, when I tested the feed line from the shack end to make future troubleshooting easier, the resistance read open-circuit. How could that be? The system was working perfectly! It turned out that there is apparently a diode in series with the relay coil in the box and reversing the ohmmeter leads produced the expected reading.

Lesson: when measuring resistance of cables to remote boxes, try swapping the meter leads in case there is a diode in the box!"

"Using FM to Improve WiFi Networks"

Researchers demonstrated the use of non-WiFi frequencies to coordinate between geographically adjacent access points to maximize throughput.

http://www.mccormick.northwestern.edu/news/articles/2015/11/using-fm-to-improve-wireless-networks.html

Check that connector before forcing it in!

Learn from my recent experience that if a connector is not connecting easily, make sure that the male and female are of the same type. While building a cable to interface a bandpass filter to a Yaesu rig, I encountered an 8-pin socket connector that did not match the 8-pin plug, despite being visually similar. Too much enthusiasm on my part could have damaged a very expensive radio.'

Technical Web Site of the Week

http://amasci.com/amateur/transis.html

This article explains P-N transistor operation by focusing on depletion regions. If you would like to do a little experimenting with constructing your own transistors, towards the end of this article on how transistors work, suggestions are made on possible fabrication methods using a galena crystal and "cat whiskers," germanium diodes, or the (larger) dies of older audio power transistors.

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter

27 February 2016 is National Milk Tart Day